

Qva-Aae

The Official Journal of The Radio Association of Erie

January 1990

RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE
P.O. BOX 844
ERIE, PA. 16512

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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INCLUDING ALL HF HAM BANDS. IT HAS A STABLE
BFO, RF GAIN, LARGE DIGITAL READOUT.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Connecticut Hamfest - Sunday, March 11, 1990 8:00am
to 3:00pm at the Connecticut Human Resource Center,
327 Mill Street (Rt 7). FCC exams, food, rag chew
room. Talk-in 147.99/39.

Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest - February 25, 1990 8:00am
to 3:00pm at Akron North High School. Talk-in 147.87/27.

V.E. EXAMINATIONS

Held on the first Saturday of each month at Villa
Maria College at 8:00am. Bring a copy of your
license and a check for 4.95. Walk-ins welcome.
Next exam February 3, 1990.

Everything in Amateur Radio



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January Quarar

From the Chairman...

Public Service, Education, Field Day, Skywarn, Ares, RACES, Contests, Antennas, Meeting Programs, Hamfests, Picnic, Springfest, etc., etc... All these enhance our enjoyment and participation in HamRadio in 1990.

We all have our own ways of exercising the hobby. Club activities are a fun way to participate. President-Gary, KA3FZO, will be happy to make all these things happen -- all he needs is you to help make them come true!

I should add hastily that Skywarn ARES and RACES are not Club-Operated projects, but the RAE does endorse them and provides support for those who do help.

There are a lot of jobs open in the RAE. No employment agency charge for obtaining one of these jobs; the pay is excellent: -- plenty of satisfaction in doing a job that helps others.

* * * * *

We may not have another raffle for a while. I guess we wore it out; there was a loss in the last one. Some might say it was because we gave non-amateur prizes. But the last few with ham stuff did not do well either. It's a lot of work and for no return, or a loss we can do without. (Personal opinion). Subject to study... ???

The dinner also did not break even, but at least more people benefited from the good food and the really nice evening. If you have ideas on these or other topics please make them known at a meeting or to an officer or board member. I certainly am for continuing the dinners. As it is we don't find time to get together often enough.

By the time you read this, or even if you don't read it, by the time you receive it, we will have done the first classes in Novice, Tech and General. I'll admit freely that I don't feel qualified to teach, but

since I should be qualified, I'll try it.

And hope for help: Kevin WB3KKT, Dick NI3Q, Joe KC3LV, and Joe N3FSI have offered and will be there. Of course, Dave KA3PMW deserves credit for making it happen this year! Dave NEEDS HELP in the Tech/General class. I don't know how many will enroll in the sessions, but if we get a large turnout we'll be in need of PROCTORS and help to answer questions. It's a great chance to parade HamRadio before the public! I HAVE YET TO MEET A HAM WHO IS NOT PROUD TO BE ONE!

73's Bob, N3FAW

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 1/2/90

Attending were KC3LV, N3FAW, WB2ICS, WB3KKT, N3GDS, WB2QS. Officers in attendance were KZ3E, KA3FZO and WB3KGT. K3IVG and KA3PMW also attended.

N3FAW elected chairman for 1990.

Discussion followed concerning appointment of Public Service Coordinator--tabled until next business meeting.

We still need an instructor for the General class course-KC3LV can assist but not on Wednesdays. KA3PMW, KC3LV to make QW practice tapes. WB3KGT in charge of Amateur radio class announcements--Times.

A motion by N3FAW/KC3LV that RAE send a check in the amount of \$100 to Villa Maria for the use of their facilities for V Exams in 1990-- passed.

WB3KGT covered many topics to be discussed at the next repeater committee meeting-- following the 1/4/90 regular meeting.

Discussion followed on the feasibility of the RAE erecting a building and tower and renting tower space out for income.

Bob, N3FAW will look into insurance possibilities for directors' and members' protection.

PLEASE!!...ANY CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS OR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS INVOLVING THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE SHOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR REVIEW PRIOR TO SIGNING.

Meeting adjourned 8:25pm

Called to order at 7PM by Chmn Tony Zona
PRESENT: T. Joe Pearo WB2ICS, Gary Albenstadt
K43FZO, Tony Zona WB3KGT, Dave Henderson
N3EOY, George Bablak WBZQS, Craig Hill K3PLV,
Chester Kanis KB3P, Clark Coho N3DYY, Bob
Schwimmer N3FQW.

61 MOVE-- Tony Zona announced that WQLN
informed us that our repeater equipment, now
located on a balcony in the WQLN transmitter
complex, must be relocated on the first floor.
We must be ready to make the move by next
spring. There is much to be done, including
preplanning for many items: coax location,
couplers, duplexers, ground/lightning protection,
telephone. Talks on additional details will be held
with Denny Spagnola, Chief Engr at WQLN.
NOISE Investigation is still proceeding to
determine the location of the noise source on the
repeater. The noise can be quite bad during
stormy, windy conditions. During calm weather,
it is hardly discernable.

82 AFTR -- This repeater will be located up 175 ft
on the Energycare tower near the intersection of
old RT86 and stateline road. We will deal with
Energycare as to administration, although
Motorola is the owner.

The KENDACOM is to be returned to the factory
for overhaul. We will also need a chassis about
19" x 6" x 18". Joe Pearo will draw up a plan for
this chassis to be rack & panel mounted. We need
to find a schematic for the controller. Craig Hill
will have the link transmitter ready next week.

Also Discussed-- control for the repeater: two
phone lines vs one phone line & a 440 mhz
control. No decision yet.

Meeting adjourned about 9pm

Clark N3DYY Acting Sec'y

Qua-Roe CLASSIFIED

ICOM IC20T 2meter handy talkie with extra
battery pack, speaker-mic, and charger \$225. Call
Jerry, N3GDS at 825-2718.

WANTED-- HF transceiver or xmtr/rx pair. Call
Bob Sawtelle, K43RUB at 899-4793.

WANTED-- Bencher BY-1 iambic keyer paddles.
Call Kevin, WB3KKT at 825-5919.

Qua-Roe Classified listings are free. Contact
Kevin, WB3KKT at 825-5919 or via packet radio on
145.01mhz. Classified listings and articles of
interest are more than welcome.

The meeting was opened at 7:34pm by club president,
Gary, K43FZO. There were 20 members and 3 visitors
present. The Board of Directors report was read by
Secretary, Ken, KZ3E.

Committee Reports:

PUBLIC SERVICE: Gary, K43FZO asked for a volunteer
to fill the position of public service committee
chairman. There were no volunteers from the floor to
fill the position, but Jim, KZ3C said he would be
willing to assist the chairman.

REPEATER: Tony, WB3KGT announced that the repeater
committee will meet immediately following the club
meeting.

MEMBERSHIP: Jim, KJ3L reported that there are
currently 91 members paid-up for 1990. He mentioned
that dues must be paid this evening in order to
maintain membership in good standing. Cards will be
sent out to last year's members who have not yet paid
their 1990 dues.

CONTEST: A contest committee chairman is still
needed.

BY-LAWS: Committee has not yet met.

VE TEAM: Norma, W3CG announced that the next VE
session will be on January 6th, 8am, at Villa Maria
College.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Jerry, N3GDS and Clark, N3DYY
volunteered to serve on the committee.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Jerry, N3GDS and Clark, N3DYY
will serve on the committee along with the treasurer.

INTERFERENCE COMMITTEE: Joe, WB2ICS volunteered
to head up the committee.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: Jim, KZ3C moved that the autopatch
on the club repeater, other than the emergency
autopatch, be limited to club members' use only with
the exception of transient amateur radio operators,
effective March 1, 1990. Seconded by Joe, WB2ICS.
Motion carried 12-2.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17pm

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Kenneth R. Teleis KZ3E

Q12-H2C

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FEBRUARY EDITOR
N3DYY CLARK

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V. PRESIDENT	Tony Zona	WB3KGT
SECRETARY	Ken Teleis	KZ3E
TREASURER	Matt Rizzo	KA3PEJ

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Joe Pearo	WB2ICS	(2)
Kevin McKenna	WB3KKT	(1)
Joe Seppala	KC3LV	(1)
George Bablak	W3ZQS	(1)

RAE CLUB MINUTES

February 1, 1990

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President, Gary, KA3FZO. There 22 members and 1 visitor present. The board of directors report was read by Kevin, WB3KKT.

Treasurer's report: Matt Rizzo reported a checking account balance of \$1586.97, a savings balance of 99.37, an education committee balance of \$614.12, a public service account balance of \$857.83, and a life membership balance of \$2,687.97.

Committee Reports:

BY LAWS: The by-laws committee has not yet met. Gary, KA3FZO, will ask Joe Seppala to be the committee chairman. Gene Rogowski, asked to be removed from the committee, and Jim Spinks, said he would be willing to serve.

REPEATER: Tony Zona, WB3KGT, reports that a tower climb is planned soon to remove the old heliax and put up a control antenna on the WQLN tower. The Station Master antenna on the .61 repeater may be defective and if so, will have to be sent back to the factory for repair. We will test the Sinclair antenna to see if it may be suitable for being placed back on WQLN. The .82 repeater will be tested on the air at the home of Gary, KA3FZO.

There was some discussion of the new closed autopatch policy that goes into effect on March 1. Ken, KZ3E will send cards to each member with an individual personalized code for his use of the autopatch.

GTE has announced that they will be reducing our repeater phone bill to the residential rate, and we should be getting a refund from them for the difference in rates over the past several months. Gary will follow up to be sure we get this refund.

EDUCATION: Bob Schwimmer reported that the amateur radio classes are now meeting on Tuesday evenings at Tech Memorial High School.

MEMBERSHIP: Jim Spinks, KJ3L reports that there were 93 members already paid up, with an additional 18 paid at this meeting for a total of 111 members.

CONTEST: Dave Alexander, KA3PMW will be in charge of Field Day this year. Dick Schreve will head up the PA QSO Party again. Kevin McKenna has the Worked All Erie certificates, if anyone is interested in them.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: WQLN Auction: Bob Schwimmer stated we would like to have 25-26 people to man the phones at WQLN for this year's auction. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Thus far, 9 members have signed up.

Gary Alberstadt mentioned that we would like to pursue more grants to support the club, and we need areas within the club to allocate these funds to. Clark Coho, N3DYY mentioned the idea of purchasing some teaching aids or educational materials. Anyone with any ideas on the allocation of these funds should contact Gary Alberstadt.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth R. Teleis, KZ3E
Secretary

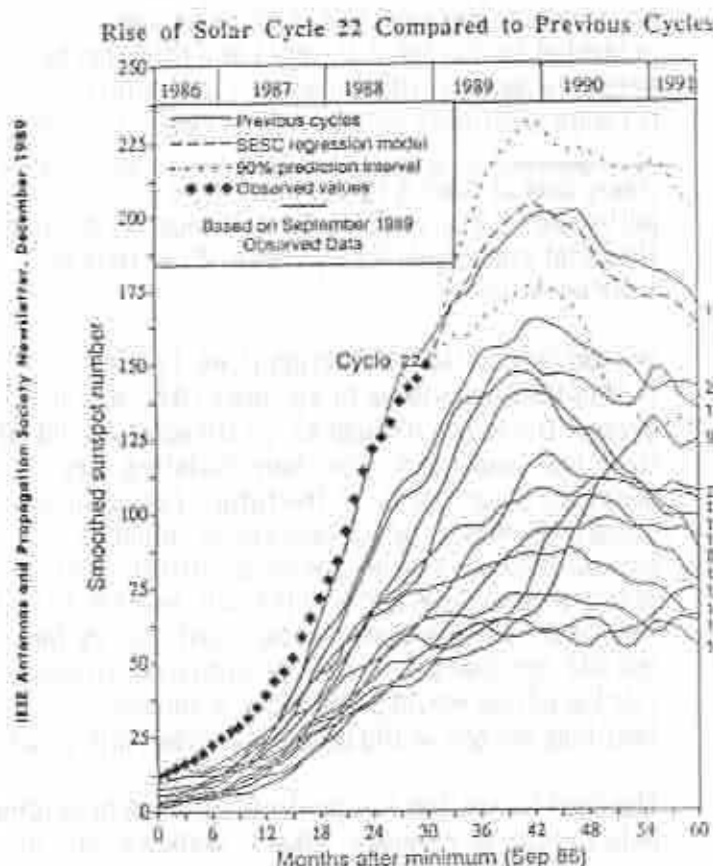


Fig. 1. Solar cycle 22, as observed and predicted by the NOAA Space Environment Services Center.

This particular prediction shows solar cycle 22 as estimated to peak around February 1990, with a sunspot number just over 200, which, if true, will make it the highest recorded cycle. Unusual propagation effects include those stemming from increased ionization, such as higher maximum usable frequencies at HF, and ionospherically-propagated interference at higher than usual VHF frequencies.

RAE DIRECTORS MEETING 1/23/89

Present: Directors, N3FAW, KB3P, WB3KK, KC3LY, N3GDS, W3ZQS.

Also attending N3EOY, KA3FZO, WB3KGT. Our guests were Roger Keegen and Beth Dubik who graciously gave of their time to answer some questions we had concerning our Insurance needs.

INSURANCE:

1) Get evidence of insurance (certification) from all independent contractors we hire.
2) Name RAE as additional insured if contractor does not have workmans compensation insurance. Should his employee get hurt, RAE could be liable for his workmans' compensation--our present policy does not cover this. Any independent contractor (sole proprietor) should work alone unless his workers (helpers) are adequately covered.

Present policy; \$1--\$2 million Social Club Code policy. Basically, our policy protects the RAE against damages to a third party. RAE members are NOT covered by RAE policy for injuries they incur, non-members are protected. Directors are protected for personal injury (to a third party), property damage, libel/slander (to a point). Directors/officers policy... We're really to small an organization to get one, and if we could, it would likely cost at least \$1200/year. This kind of policy would also require three things; 1) Audited financial statement, 2) By-laws, 3) Article of incorporation.

We can get similar protection if we 1) Add indemnification clause to By-laws (RAE would protect Directors/Officers). 2) Directors must do their homework as to how their decisions may affect the organization in the future (use common sense). Normally "gross negligence" must be proven in order to sue a director/officer of a non-profit organization and win the suit. N3FAW to look into D&D (death and dismemberment) policy for the RAE members---> Cost prohibitive. Inland Marine policy would protect our antennas, feedlines, etc and would cost \$100/year minimum.

The Good Samaritan law protects us when providing help to injured runners, bikers, walkers, etc. in Pennsylvania.

FINANCES:

N3FAW reports the RAE lost about \$200 on the Christmas raffle and a few dollars on the dinner. Bob recommends no raffle at Springfest.

Ways and Means Committee -TBA to investigate fundraising methods.

Tax Exemption-- N3GDS to investigate.

Motion by KC3LY/N3GDS that RAE cover up to \$150 over cost for prizes, etc for Springfest and that reservations be sent to neighboring clubs-- Tabled.

Officers and Directors should set a good example and head committees, etc.

Novice and Tech/General classes to begin 1/24/90 at Tech. Discussed working with Vo-Tech next time.-- paid instructors??

Niagara Special Event--

HF Committee -TBA to contact Melbourne Smith about installing antennas in the rigging and RAE could offer to install other communications equipment in return. W3GY could be maritime mobile this September.

Meeting adjourned 8:55pm, respectfully,
Kevin McKenna, WB3KKT

EDUCATION

Educational classes are quite active at the Tech Memorial High School on Wednesday nights starting at 7pm.

The Novice class has 20 students enrolled including 2 couples teams, 4 women, and one twelve year old. Theory and Operations are handled by Bob Schwimmer N3FAW and Kevin McKenna WB3KKT while Code lessons are covered by Joe Shugart N3FSI and Dick Waldinger N13Q.

There are 6 enrolled in the General class with Theory taught by Dave Alexander KA3PMW and Joe Seppala KC3LY. Shugart and Waldinger do double duty by handling the Code in this class as well as the Novice.

Don Eller K3GYD and Mike Przepierski N03E also contribute by teaching and proctoring in both classes as needed.

The classes are now at the halfway point in the curricula. We hope that there will be a good final graduation of new amateur radio operators.

WARREN RADIO

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CONNEAUT HAMFEST

Sunday March 11 8:00AM to 3:00PM
Conneaut Human Resource Center
327 Mill Street (Rt 7)
FCC Exams - Food - Rag Chew Room
Talk-In 147.99/39

V.E. EXAMINATIONS

First Saturday of each month
Villa Maria College 2551 W 8th St Erie.
Bring a copy of your license and a check for \$4.95.
Walk-ins are welcome.
Next exam March 3 1990 at 8:00AM

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February 14, 1990

PREZ SEZ

Whats going on in the R.A.E.?

As of this date there is still no one to handle Public Service. Like usual no one wants the job. So who's going to do it?

Most everyone cries the blues about how the club can't afford to buy this or do that. What if we did no public service and didn't receive the donations from the groups we help out?

Could we raise the dues another \$5. or \$10. per member? If we did how many would drop out. Well thats what those donations figure out to so what do we do? You tell me and the other officers and the board at the meeting in March.

Until we find someone to handle it I am requesting that any inquiries for public service be made to me (K3FZO) at 1901 Dutch Road; Fairview, Pa. 16415 phone # 474-3736, or to WB3KGT at 2485 Dorn Road; Waterford, Pa. 16441 phone # 864-4545, or to N3FAW at 129 E. Arlington Road; Erie, Pa. 16509 phone # 866-3027.

Together we will try to get the events co-ordinated. Please when we call for your help try to help. The whole club depends on it.

Now lets touch on another subject that seems to get alot of air time: "the 01/61 repeater and why the repeater committee spends so much of the clubs money and does nothing."

First of all the clubs money is not being spent! The money that is spent on the repeaters comes from GRANTS that were obtained from various sources strictly for that purpose. The repeater committee has a free hand to spend that money on the building and maintainance of the repeaters. And they are watched to make sure the clubs money is not used.

In the very near future we hope to have the problem on 01/61 solved and the 22/B2 machine on the air. Also if all goes well possibly a third machine on the air on a frequency yet to be co-ordinated. We are presently looking into a link set up to better improve the coverage to the areas lost when the 01/61 antenna was moved.

Sorry things take so long to happen but if we had to hire the pro's to do our work instead of making due with the small group of volunteers we couldn't afford to do anything.

Lets see what else is there? Oh Yea!

I have asked Joe Seppala (KC3LV) to head the By-Law committee consisting of Don Kelly (KA3QDM) and Kevin McKenna (WB3KKT) and Dick Bainbridge (W3GZO) and Jon Vidal (N3GIL). Any suggestions or recomendations should be sent to these gentlemen. Good Luck guys!

We would like some input from the members about possibly having a springfest or possibly a dinner maybe with a dance this spring to maybe bring the club back together as one instead of as a group of cliques. Please call or write with your comments.

We still need someone to head up a group effort for HFers. You people say that the club does nothing for HF and that everything is centered around repeaters well nows your chance to help develope an HF group. I personally love DX and when the QSL cards come in the mail I am overjoyed! Lets do something.

The Erie area has some many historical sites and dates which we could use for special event excuses. What about the launching of the Brig Niagra this coming summer?

That could be one heck of an event and I would imagine we could really make some great contacts on HF especially if we can be on the ship when it sails !!

Oh well I won't take any more of your time this month.

KA3FZD

QUA-RAE

VE REPORT

UP GRADE !!!

The February test session for FCC exams resulted in 4 new Technicians: Ed Kline KA3VRU of Linesville, Scott Anthony KA3OVS of Meadville, Jon Ackerman KA3JVZ of Girard, and Elaine Crossley KB2JAZ of Frewsburg, N.Y. Two new Novices: Bradford Phillips and David Williamson, both of Erie. There were also two from Erie and one from Marienville who did not complete an upgrade.

Elaine Crossley is the mother of Bill Crossley WK2X, who gained A. Extra at the age of 14. David Williamson is really an old timer, who let his license lapse while serving in Europe. He is the former K3TPK, and a former officer of the RAE.

The VEs for the February session were Chester Kanis KB3P, Dick Blasco KY3D, Henry Schultz KA3GXP, Dick Waldinger NI3Q Mike Przepierski NO3E, Ray Keskinen W8HVK, and Norma Vanderhoff W3CG.

FCC exams will be held at Villa Maria College on March 3, at 8 A.M., and the Erie VE Team will also conduct exams at the Conneaut, Ohio Hamfest on March 11, at 12 Noon.

Erie Zerenberg of Fairview and the former KA3VKA is now N3HUM. Eric passed the Novice exam in November and waiting to receive his call when he passed Technician Class in December. Notice from the ARRL/VEC office indicated that the results of the February 3 Erie test session were sent to the FCC on February 7.

Although appreciation to the VE Team is often expressed by the candidates, and frequent letters of appreciation follow exams, and we also hear mention of club dues, one from our last session comes to mind. On the bottom of the exam paper was written "Thank you for being here for us."

Norma Vanderhoff W3CG

PREZ SEZ MORE !

February 19, 1990

Dear Fellow Amateurs;

As I sit here at my desk in the shack this morning I look back over the past two months and try to figure out what has gone right and what has gone wrong not only within the R.A.E. but through out the world.

In the past few months we have virtually seen the fall of the communistic world and the people of the world rejoicing over their new found freedom. I don't know about you people but I never thought I would see all that happening in the world, at least not in my lifetime.

Anyway back to the R.A.E.

This past week the Erie area was besieged by mother nature in the form of an ice storm. Estimates say about one million dollars damage was done to the area. And as of eight this morning there were still some three hundred homes without power.

On thursday when the power went out so did the 61, 76, and 84 repeaters. The only repeaters that were still up were the 285 machine owned by N3APP and the 375 machine owned by Gannon.

Apparently when the power went out and the repeaters went down so did the simplex frequencies. Either that or everyone had dead batteries at the same time.

Anyway as usual the amateur community was called upon for radio communications. And as usual the same few guys that are always there were there to help.

Then on friday just when things were returning to some semblance of normal SKYWARN was up. I was in my car on I-90 returning from an overdue trip to Cleveland. Did you ever try to run a jet from your car on the interstate? I needed help and I needed it bad (come to think of it I still need it). We were advised that a storm was fast approaching from the west and that a Tornado Watch was issued for our area.

Anyway with the help of several operators we started to put together a net. Then a report came from Ashtabula of a possible tornado touchdown. Now what?

Well we pulled it off and we were lucky enough to have missed the brunt of the storm but more damage was done by the high winds that did come thru the area.

Later that same evening a call was sent out to the amateur community for help in establishing communications for the Red Cross relief effort in providing shelter and food for those effected by the two days of storms.

Like usual that small group of guys turned out.

When I became critical of the lack of operators I was told that I should slow down and realize that possibly the lack of operators was because of the storm and maybe most still did not have power.

Thats an exceptable and dam good reason I said except that the power outage and damage had failed to stop the Fort Peirce Connection or the idol chit-chat on the repeaters once they came back up.

But what truly amazed me was that when we called for help from the Red Cross it seemed that all those HT's and base stations were once again without power. Strange how things happen.

You people who sit back and sandbag and complain about the noise on the repeater and complain about the different modes and do nothing to help solve the problems that exist, you know who you are, and should read Part 97 and remember what Amateur Radio is for, and what your license requires of you.

At one point when it looked as if we were failing our job one Red Cross official recommended that they call REACT to pick up the slack in our organization. Then we called outside the R.A.E. area.

I think there are 114 members in the R.A.E. and of that there was only 15 members who participated or at least checked in and offered to help.

We had operators from Ohio, New York and Crawford county and even some travelers who were just going thru the area who offered to stop and lend a hand.

Its pretty dam good when a club the size of the R.A.E. has to go outside for help with our own problems, or call for help from the CBers.

Anyway those of you that did help or at least try to help THANK YOU.

Those of you that couldn't be bothered I only hope that the guys who were able to help out, don't have power failures or lack of the coordination to key the mic when you ask for help.

But you know as well as I do that would never happen. Just don't use your brother amateur.

KJ3FZD

✱ ✱ ✱

A fellow was telling his friends the difference between "to irritate," "to aggravate," and "to frustrate". To make his point, he lifts the receiver and dials a number at random.

"Hello, is Jim Smith there?"

"No, you have the wrong number," answers the man on the other end.

"Are you sure? He said to call him at this number."

"I don't know any Jim Smith. Better check your number." The man hangs up.

The joker dials the same number again. "Hello, let me talk to Jim Smith."

"I told you before there is nobody here by that name."

"Are you sure? Why don't you check and make certain?"

"Damn it! There is no Smith here," yells the man and slams the phone down.

"See," said the joker, "that guy was irritated the first time. Then we aggravated the irritation. Now, let's frustrate him."

He dials the same number again. "Hello, this is Jim Smith. Any calls for me?"

QUA RAE

The Official Journal of the Radio Association of Erie

MARCH 1990

WB3KKT -- Editor

Radio Association of Erie
P O Box 844
Erie, PA 16512

BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITION

CHESTER KANIS, KB3P HAS RESIGNED.

THE BOARD APPRECIATES CHET'S PAST PARTICIPATION AND REGRETS HIS DECISION TO QUIT. WE TRUST HIS COUNSEL WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE.

INTERESTED MEMBERS FOR THE OPEN POSITION FOR THE REST OF 1990 SHOULD CONTACT ME. THE BOARD WILL APPOINT A REPLACEMENT ASAP.

BOB, N3FAW 866-3027

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Vice-Pres. Tony Zona, WB3KGT
Secretary Ken Teleis, KZ3E
Treasurer Matt Rizzo, KA3PEJ
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George Bablak, W3ZQS (1)

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MORE ON REPEATERS from the BCARA Tell-A-Ham

Since it appears that few hams have repeater directories or bother to read them, I have taken the liberty to list the "Repeater Operating Practices" printed in the ARRL Repeater Directory.

- 1) Monitor the repeater to become familiar with any peculiarities in it's operation.
- 2) To initiate a contact simply indicate that you are on frequency. Various geographical areas have different practices on making yourself heard, but generally, "this is W1AW monitoring" will suffice.
- 3) Identify legally; You must identify at the end of a transmission or series and at least once each 10 minutes during the communication.
- 4) Pause between transmissions. This allows other hams to use the repeater. Someone may have an emergency. On most repeaters a pause is necessary to reset the timer.
- 5) Keep transmissions short and thoughtfull. Your monologue may prevent someone with an emergency from using the repeater. If your monologue is long enough, you may time out the repeater. Remember, your transmissions are being heard by many listeners including non-hams with "public service band" monitors or scanners. Don't give a bad impression of our service.
- 6) Use simplex whenever possible. If you can complete your QSO on a direct frequency, there is no need to tie up the repeater and prevent others from using it.
- 7) Use the minimum amount of power necessary to maintain communications. This FCC regulation [97.67(a)] minimizes the possibility of accessing distant repeaters on the same frequency.
- 8) Don't break into a contact unless you have something to add. Interrupting is no more polite on the air than it is in person.
- 9) Repeaters are intended primarily to facilitate mobile operation. During the commuter rush-hours, base stations should relinquish the repeater to mobile stations. Some repeater groups have rules that specifically address this practice.
- 10) Many repeaters are equipped with autopatch facilities which when properly accessed connect the repeater to the telephone system to provide a public service. The FCC forbids using autopatch for anything that could be construed as being business communications. Nor should the autopatch be used to avoid a toll call. Do not use the autopatch where regular telephone service is available. Autopatch privileges that are abused may be recinded.
- 11) All repeaters are assembled and maintained at considerable expense and inconvenience. Usually, an individual or group is responsible, and those who are regular users of a repeater should support the efforts of keeping the repeater on the air.

Editorial... author unknown

In Pennsylvania, many hunters buy a resident hunting license, firearm, or archery equipment, then assume that they "have a right" to hunt on any land that they desire. In actuality, they have the right to hunt on land where the owner gives permission to hunt, or to hunt on state gamelands which were, incidentally, bought with funds provided by Pennsylvania hunters. Fortunately, most farmers and land owners permit hunting on their lands if asked, while those who trespass are considered "slob hunters".

Similarly, an amateur radio license permits a ham to operate on the ham bands within the restrictions imposed by the class of license. The fact that a ham purchases a 2 meter FM transceiver and has a technician or higher license does not automatically grant permission to operate on any and all repeaters.

When 2 meter FM got started back in the late 60's (early 70's in some areas) nearly all repeaters were purchased or built by ham clubs or in some cases by individuals. Some clubs assessed their members \$50-\$100 each to get the necessary funds to get started. Others had fund-raisers or "bake-sales" to get on the air.

After the early growth, clubs began a reciprocal agreement system whereby an individual ham could "visit" on a repeater if he supported a repeater in his own club. This agreement almost eliminated "private lines" and "special access codes" which aided in the growth we see today.

Now, for reasons unknown to this writer, many new hams think that their "ticket" allows them to use any repeater they desire. Two years ago, I heard two hams on a repeater informing a third ham to get off the air because they were there first. Unknown to them, the third ham owned the repeater, and after informing them, he pulled the plug.

When I was in California for about six months I checked into a local repeater and was soon asked if I was a member of a club that had a repeater. I told them the name of my club and the call sign and frequency of the repeater. I was then told I was welcome to use the repeater as a guest for the period I would be there. Another ham said he was not a member of a club and he was asked to take out a short term membership for a few dollars to help support the repeater- which he did. Nobody was denied access, but it was a question of ethics.

Many local hams think they have a "right" to operate on any repeater without contributing to the operation, maintenance, or other expenses. I wonder how long they would loan their car to someone if the other driver refused to put in any gas, oil, or contribute for insurance or accident repairs. Is it the "me generation"?

I do not think, nor have I ever suggested, that the BCARA machine be a closed repeater. I also do not think anyone should be denied access to the BCARA repeater. These are just thoughts to be considered and a question of ethics.

The opinions expressed are those of the

writer and are not necessarily those of the BCARA nor any of the general membership.

--- from the BCARA Tell-A-Ham

RAE DIRECTORS MEETING 3/26/90

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm. Attending were: N3GDS, N3FAW, WB3KNT, KC3LV, W3ZQS, KB3P, KZ3E and KA3FZO.

Subjects discussed were:

- Springfest, KA3FZO to present report at 4/5/90 meeting.
 - Directory, addendum? -N3FAW to report
 - Trustee discussion, KC3EG next Board meeting.
 - Niagara special event station, KA3FZO to contact N3EOY for progress report.
 - GTE "VIP" grants, N3FAW & WB3DOM to investigate.
 - Field Day, KA3PMW requires help, hope for report at 4/5/90 meeting.
 - PA QSO Party, motion by KC3LV/N3FAW to continue sponsoring best club trophy at a cost of \$25--Passed.
 - HAMFEST, September 8, 1990 at Rainbow Gardens. A motion by KC3LV that the RAE appropriate \$500 to obtain suitable space for the hamfest(Rainbow Gardens). The funds to be returned if the building is not available on that date. Further funding for the hamfest pending a full report to be submitted prior to the April 5, 1990 business meeting. - unanimously approved.
 - Secretary/Treasurer manuals, N3FAW and KC3LV to follow up.
- Meeting adjourned 9:00pm

submitted by WB3KNT,
Board secretary

CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME ABOARD!!!

Our novice classes have introduced seven new hams to the Erie area and seven more candidates are almost ready to pass their novice exams. Kevin Hudler, Henry(Hank) Kaminski, Bill Longstreth, Anthony(Tony) Mauriello, Charlie Smith, and Christopher(Chris) Surovic have successfully completed their novice exams. Christine Mangan passed the novice and Technician exams.

Teresa Cieslikowski, Richard Goff, Jackie Mauriello, and Linda Phillips are almost there, having successfully completed the novice code-or-theory elements of the novice exam. I'm sure these candidates will have their licenses also by Summer. Many thanks to Bob, N3FAW, Dick, NI3Q, Don, K3GYD, Mike, N03E, Norma, W3CG and her VE Team, and all others who gave of their time and experience to bring more hams into the fold. - WB3KNT

Tech/General class report next month.

Hamfest Calendar

April 27,28,29 Dayton Hamvention -- Dayton, OH
 May 5 Southern Tier ARC -- Owego, NY
 May 18,19,20 ARRL Atlantic Division Convention -- Rochester, NY
 June 3 Breezeshooters Hamfest -- Butler, PA
 June 8,9,10 ARRL National Convention -- Kansas City, MO
 July 8 Genesee RA -- Batavia, NY
 July 8 North Hills ARC -- Pittsburgh, PA
 September 8 Erie Area Ham-o-rama/computerfair -- Erie, PA
 September 9 Butler County ARA -- Butler, PA

VE EXAM Schedule 1998

April 7	July 7	October 6
May 5	August 4	November 3
June 2	September 1	December 1

ARRL/VE exams are administered on the first Saturday of each month at Villa Maria College. Bring a check payable to ARRL/VEC in the amount of \$4.95 and a photocopy of your Operators license.

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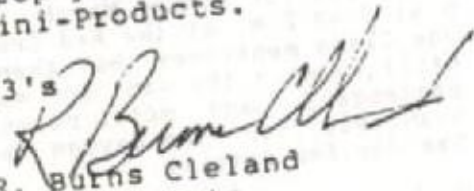
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RAE CLUB MEETING 3-1-98

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM by President, Gary Alberstadt, KA3FZO. Twenty-five members were present. Officers and Board Members absent were WB2ICS and KA3PEJ.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT:

The proposed club budget for 1998 was presented by N3GDS. Other items remaining to be discussed from the board of directors meeting were mentioned by Bob Schwimmer, N3FAW and Kevin McKenna, WB3XHT. N3FAW motioned that the club spend \$25.00 on a donation to the Nittany ARC for the PA QSO party trophy. Second by KZ3E. Motion carried unanimously. The Board had also discussed establishing a fund for granting membership to underprivileged hams. This idea will be expanded upon with input from the budget committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Schwimmer gave the report in Matt Rizzo's absence. Checking Balance: \$3,506.55. Savings Balance: \$99.81. Public Service: \$2,357.83. Life Membership: \$1,187.97. Education: \$614.12.

VE TEAM: The VE Team will be giving exams at the Amateur radio classes being held at Tech High School this Tuesday.

REPEATER: Tony Zona reported the Sinclair antenna is being tested and will go up at KA3FZO's house for repeater testing as soon as all equipment is ready. Ken, KZ3E explained the use of the new repeater user codes.

MEMBERSHIP: Bob Schwimmer reported the club has 7 new members this month for a total of 118. Norma W3CG has membership application forms to provide to new novices who take exams from the RAE VE team.

Tony Zona motioned that any new licensee from Erie and contiguous counties be offered a one-year free membership in the RAE upon application for same. Second by Joe Ciano. Motion Carried.

BY-LAWS: Joe Seppala reported the committee has not met yet.

PUBLIC SERVICE: There is a public service event on April 7 for the Boy Scouts at Presque Isle. More details to follow. A committee chairman is still needed. Dick Waldinger nominated Joe Ciano for committee chairman. Joe declined the nomination. Dick Waldinger expressed the club's appreciation to Joe for his public service work. Joe said he would accept the public service chair, but would like an assistant. Eric Zierenburg, N3HUM will assist Joe with public service.

The AC Power and building lighting went out at 8:18 P.M.

PROPERTY: Gene Rogowski reported that the ergosy rig is available for loan to members. The club two-meter rig is occupied with the club packet station. The idea of the club purchasing a new two-meter rig was tabled until it can be considered by the budget committee. Gene would like to see some excess equipment sold by the club if it is no longer needed.

The A.C. Power was restored at 8:33 P.M.

ARES/SKYWARN: Joe Ciano mentioned that he would like to see the ARES/SKYWARN group allocated more funding from the club.

OLD BUSINESS: Floyd, WA3LCO moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as printed in the QUA-RAE. Second by NI3Q. Motion carried.

Gary, KA3FZO, mentioned that GTE North has refused to reduce our repeater phone bill rates. Ron Seyboldt suggested we contact GTE corporate headquarters. Gary will follow up on this.

NEW BUSINESS: Floyd, WA3LCO spoke about the NPRM on the Communicator Class License. Joe Seppala suggested we send out comments to the FCC to express our opinions regarding this NPRM. Hamfest: Gary KA3FZO brought up the idea of the RAE sponsoring a hamfest. Joe Ciano suggested a meeting be set up to discuss this idea. The meeting was scheduled for Monday March 5 at 7:30 P.M. at the Red Cross. Joe Ciano mentioned that there is still room in the van for more passengers, and motel rooms are still available for the Dayton Hamvention. See Joe for details.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Teleis, KZ3E,

Secretary.

TO ALL RAE MEMBERS

"RAE HAMBOREE and COMPUTERFEST"

At the last General Membership Meeting a consensus of members present agreed on the concept of organizing a Hamfest to be held in Erie. Since then two meetings have been held to plan the Event. The Board of Directors voted to support the necessary funding so that commitments can be made for expenses.

A nucleus Hamfest Committee has been formed, led by Gary Alberstadt KA3FZO and Floyd Titus WA3LCO. Much more help is needed, so when a fully staffed committee is organized, names and duties will be published.

Here are the particulars, so far:

Date: September 8, 1990, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Place: Rainbow Gardens, Waldameer Park, 220 Peninsula Dr.
Admission: \$4.00, advance sales or at door
Tables: 12 foot: \$8.00, discount for more than one.
Power Cords: Available at slight extra cost
Parking: Free, plenty of space
Food: Sandwiches, soda, coffee
Prizes: HF Rig, 2M Rig, plus others
Talk In: Of course, with a prize
Testing: Most Likely
Weather: Perfect
Vendors: Talk it up...
Help: Please
Volunteers: Welcome

.....
HAMFEST COMMITTEE

I WILL BE AVAILABLE TO HELP WITH THE HAMFEST AS FOLLOWS:

TYPE OF WORK _____
(see _____
below) _____

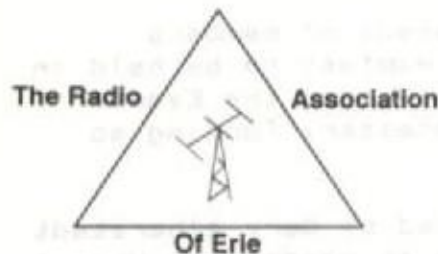
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PHONE _____

Please give to Gary Alberstadt, KA3FZO, or Floyd Titus, WA3LCO, or call Gary: 474-3736.

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